

George H. Schroeder,
outside the poultry building
at the Wayne County (PA)
Fair, August 2000.
Photo by S. Robert Powell

George H. Schroeder
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George H. Schroeder: Poultry Breeder, Exhibitor, Promoter, and Judge

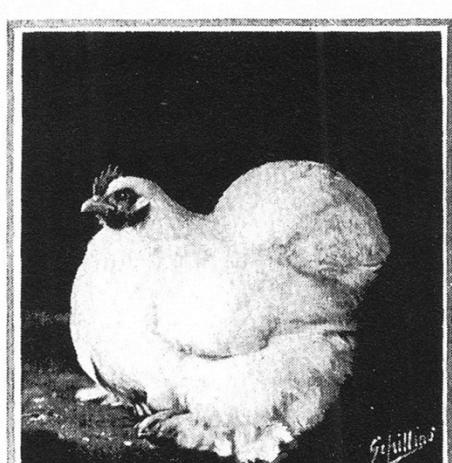
American Poultry Association Honor/Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to George H. Schroeder (Prompton, PA) at the APA semiannual meet, March 17-18, 2001, Wapakoneta, OH, by S. Robert Powell, APA District 2 Director

- Breeder and exhibitor of White Cochin bantams (bloodline of Art V. Granger, South Bend, IN), 1940's and 1950's. In 1955, at Jamestown, NY show, won for the third time the New York/ABA Gold Trophy for the best cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, and trio of one variety. Trophy previously won at New York Show in January 1949 and December 1949. Trophy retired on George Schroeder's third win. Four engravings of George Schroeder's White Cochin bantams, shown here, were created by Arthur O. Schilling. George's White Cochins were described by Arthur Schilling as being "silver white/dominant white—with no yellowish cast whatsoever."
- Breeder and exhibitor of Black Cochin bantams (bloodline of D. Ross Blanford, Kansas City and Albuquerque), 1960's through

SCHROEDER'S WHITE COCHIN BANTAMS



1ST. PRIZE WHITE COCHIN BANT. COCKEREL
BOSTON 100TH. CENTENNIAL, JAN. 1948
CHAMP. WHITE COCHIN MALE. A.B.A. MEET.
BRED AND OWNED BY,
GEO. SCHROEDER, HONESDALE, PA..



1ST. PRIZE WHITE COCHIN BANTAM HEN
BOSTON 100TH. CENTENNIAL, JAN. 1948.
NAT. A.B.A. MEET, BRED AND OWNED BY,
GEORGE SCHROEDER, HONESDALE, PA.

The last National Meet of the American Bantam Association, held at the 100th Boston Show, brought out one of the hottest classes of white Cochin Bantams ever shown (79 Birds).

Our birds placed as follows:

5th, 6th Cock—Class of 13
1st Hen—Class of 11
1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th Cockerel—Class of 14
2nd, 3rd, 4th Pullet—Class of 11
3rd, 5th Young Trio—Class of 7
(Did not show any old trios)

Our First Cockerel was placed Champion White Cochin Bantam Male.

Top Quality Birds Usually for Sale at All Times
My reputation is your guarantee of a square deal

GEORGE H. SCHROEDER

Box 5H

Honesdale, Pa.

1990's. Named Master Breeder and Exhibitor (#174) of Black Cochins bantams by the American Bantam Association in 1994.

- Life member of APA, first joined about 1940; general licensed judge, #868, issued July 5, 1949, at Honesdale, PA, by Harvey C. Wood (Light Brahmas), Newton, NJ. In 1950, at the request of Paul Ives, George Schroeder judged the national Plymouth Rock meet at Boston, and with that he began a 50-year career as one of the most highly respected poultry judges in America.
- Poultry Superintendent, Wayne County Fair, 1950-1990, 2000-present (his predecessor was Frank W. Schuerholz; Richard Laabs was superintendent, 1990-1999); president of the Wayne County Fair, 1990-1999.
- Charter member of the Wayne County Poultry Fanciers' Association ("the Cocky Crowd")—an innovative, adventuresome, and courageous group of poultry fanciers, and very probably the most celebrated poultry association in America in the 1940's and 1950's. The Cocky Crowd sponsored not only the 17 widely renowned Honesdale Summer Shows in the period 1942-1959, but also hosted, in Honesdale, the 76th national meet and convention of the APA (June 21-25, 1949) and four semiannual meets (1949, 1952, 1954, and 1955) of the ABA in the seven-year period beginning in 1949.
- When not raising a family or raising, promoting, and showing poultry, George Schroeder worked (40 + hours a week) as a Field Representative for Limestone Products Corporation, Newton, NJ, starting in 1950.
- Elected for an unprecedented two terms as president of the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation

The APA, the ABA, and the Wayne County Fanciers' Association (WCFA), working independently as well as together, repeatedly made poultry history in Honesdale in the 1940's and 1950's. Throughout the period, George Schroeder was a key player and significantly contributed to the successes achieved by all three organizations.

1949

76th Annual Meet and Convention of the APA, 3rd ABA Semiannual meet, June 21-25, 1949; Honesdale Summer Show, June 26, 1949

- George Schroeder served as an officer of the WCFA which, backed by the entire community, hosted the joint APA and ABA meets; he also served as the show manager for the 7th Honesdale Summer Show—660 birds in the show, which were evaluated by 50 judges,

among whom were Frank Conway, Marcus Davidson, Paul Ives, John Kriner, Sr., Ben Ricketts, Arthur Schilling, Harold Tompkins, and John Wunderlich. Exhibitors from 33 states and two Canadian provinces showed their birds in this show, which was attended by 2,500 persons. 350 people attended the Saturday night poultry banquet.

- WCFA organized and sponsored a Poultry Parade down Main Street, Honesdale, June 25, 1949: 16 bands and drum and bugle corps, 50 floats, fire equipment, antique cars, cavalry, the color guard of veterans groups, Boy and Girl Scouts, a troop of mounted police, 3 companies of infantry, town officials, a float on which were displayed James Rutherford's celebrated standard Columbian Rocks, open convertibles in which rode ABA and APA officials. Ten thousand people lined the street for the poultry parade.
- APA conceives the idea of APA Master Breeder certificate at Honesdale convention.
- Harold Johnson (Acton, ME) composed an APA band march for the occasion of the APA meet and convention in Honesdale.
- F. L. Gary: "The receipts taken in [by the ABA] at this show [June 26] surpassed any and all past shows during the 35 years of the A.B.A. So again, hats off, this time to the Honesdale Summer Show."
- F. L. Gary: "Several old timers told us that this was the greatest convention of the American Poultry Association that they ever attended." Harry Atkins, Secretary of the APA: "Never in the 78 years of the A.P.A. has such a delegation been introduced with more enthusiasm than at this 76th convention."

1952

ABA Semiannual convention, June 21, Pennsylvania Room, Hotel Allen, Honesdale

- George Schroeder served as an officer of the WCFA, which hosted the ABA meet; he also served as the supervisor of judging at the 10th Honesdale Summer Show, June 21-22: 750 birds in the show, which was judged by 50 judges, among whom were Charles Burmaster, Dan Bristol, Alex Duffy, Preston Merchant, and John VanDyke.
- ABA conceives the idea of licensing judges and appoints a committee, chaired by George Schroeder to establish "a new complete set of rules and regulations for the licensing of bantam judges by the American Bantam Association"; the Committee (George Schroeder, Alice Roberts, and Robert Turner) submitted a report that was adopted by the ABA on 01-23-1953. The following year, on June 21, 1953, Alice Roberts was awarded ABA Judging License #1 at the Honesdale Summer Show.

- Pilgrim Geese, which were brought back from the brink of extinction by Paul Ives, were spotlighted, "Pilgrims on Parade," at the 1952 Honesdale Summer Show, in which 48 Pilgrims were shown. The managers of the Pilgrim show were Warren Smith and R. C. Wildenstein. Mrs. Greta Haldt had the best Pilgrim in the show. At this same show, a bantam "Wyandotte Jamboree" (Robert Southerton, manager) was also featured. A young man by the name of B. R. Bortner won with a White Wyandotte bantam cock. In the minutes of the meetings of the Cocky Crowd we read the following about Bortner's win: "It was a great sight to see a youngster like Bortner take over the old timers who found that a kid could show them how."
- Paul Ives named the first Honorary Life Member of the Cocky Crowd, which was established on September 25, 1941, as a result of a suggestion made by Paul Ives, who judged the Wayne County Fair poultry show that year. Minutes of Cocky Crowd meetings: "Many of the ideas and innovations fostered by the Wayne County Fanciers' Association originated in the mind of their esteemed friend, Paul Ives. . . Through Paul Ives we have learned that the most important part of a poultry show is the exhibitors and not, as is generally supposed, the exhibits."

1954

ABA Semiannual convention, June 19, Banquet Room, Park Hotel

- George Schroeder served as an officer of the WCFA, which hosted the ABA meet; he also served as the supervisor of judging at the 12th Honesdale Summer Show, June 19-20, which was dedicated to Arthur O. Schilling, who was named an Honorary Life Member of the Cocky Crowd. Fifty judges evaluated the 750 birds in the show. There were 500 visitors from 23 states at the show. The 750 birds in the show were evaluated by a panel of 30 judges, among whom were Dr. Paul Seibert, John Vanderwort, George Davies, Ken Bowles, and Henry Ahlf.
- A "Leghorn Jamboree" and a "Red King of the World Coronation" / "Red Bantam King of the World Coronation" were featured at the show.
- Harold Johnson (Acton, ME) wrote a band march, titled "Cocky Crowd March," which he played at the Saturday night banquet in 1954. At this banquet F. L. Gary (president of the ABA) remarked: "It would be a terrible thing in a fancier's life not to be able to come to the Honesdale Summer Show."

1955

**ABA Semiannual convention, June 18, Banquet
Room, Park Hotel**

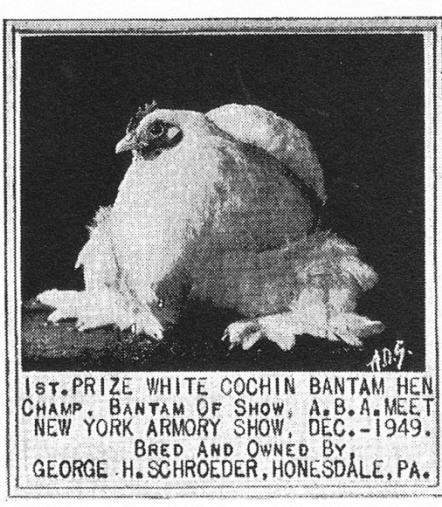
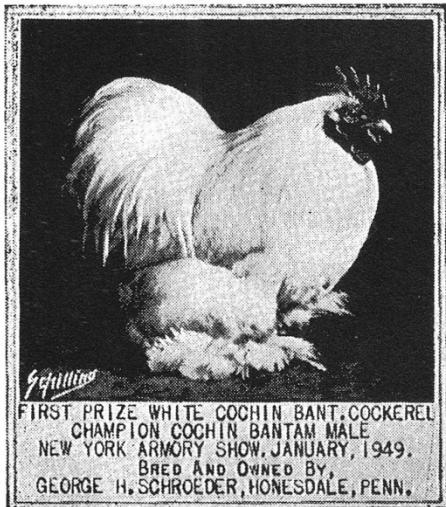
- George Schroeder served as an officer of the WCFA, which hosted the ABA meet; he also served as the supervisor of judging at the 13th Honesdale Summer Show, June 18-19, which was dedicated to John C. Kriner and Maurice F. Delano, both of whom were made Honorary Life Members of the Cocky Crowd. There were 600 birds in the show, which were exhibited by 122 fanciers. Among the 50 judges who evaluated the birds were Paul Bentz, Harry Kauffman, Charles Post, Mrs. Alice Roberts, and Arthur O. Schilling. Featured in the show were a "Red King of the World Coronation," a "Red Bantam King of the World Coronation"; and a "Cornish Jamboree."
- At the beginning of the ABA convention, George Schroeder gave the address of welcome to the ABA, on behalf of the Wayne County Fanciers' Association and the city of Honesdale.
- George Schroeder awarded the ABA/New York Gold Trophy (cast in bronze and gold plated) on White Cochin bantams by George Fitterer, secretary of the ABA; trophy put up by ABA in 1934 and won by Schroeder in January 1949 (New York), December 1949 (New York) and 1955 (Jamestown). Trophy retired with George's third win (1955).

WAYNE COUNTY FANCIERS ASSN.



"A Cocky Crowd"

SCHROEDER'S WHITE COCHIN BANTAMS



It gives me a great amount of satisfaction that after twenty-one years of competition the New York-A.B.A. Gold Trophy has been retired. This Trophy was first put up for competition at the 1934 New York Poultry Show. Mr. George Fitterer, Secretary of our American Bantam Association, presented it to me at our 1955 Honesdale Summer Show. We now have this beautiful Trophy in our home and it brings back many wonderful memories of the keen competition and the many friends we made along the way. The following is a record of the wins our birds made in winning this Trophy.

NEW YORK SHOW, JANUARY 1949, National Meet American Cochin Bantam Club, 1-2-3 Cock, 1-2 Hen, 1 Old Trio, 1-2-3-4-5 Cockerel, 1-2-3-4-5 Pullet, 1-2 Young Trio. Champion Cochin Male, Champion Cochin Young Trio, Best Display Cochin Bantams.

NEW YORK SHOW, DECEMBER 1949, National Meet, American Bantam Association, 1-2 Cock, 1-2 Hen, 2-3 Cockerel, 1-4 Pullet, 1 Old Trio, 1 Young Trio. Grand Champion Bantam, Grand Champion Trio.

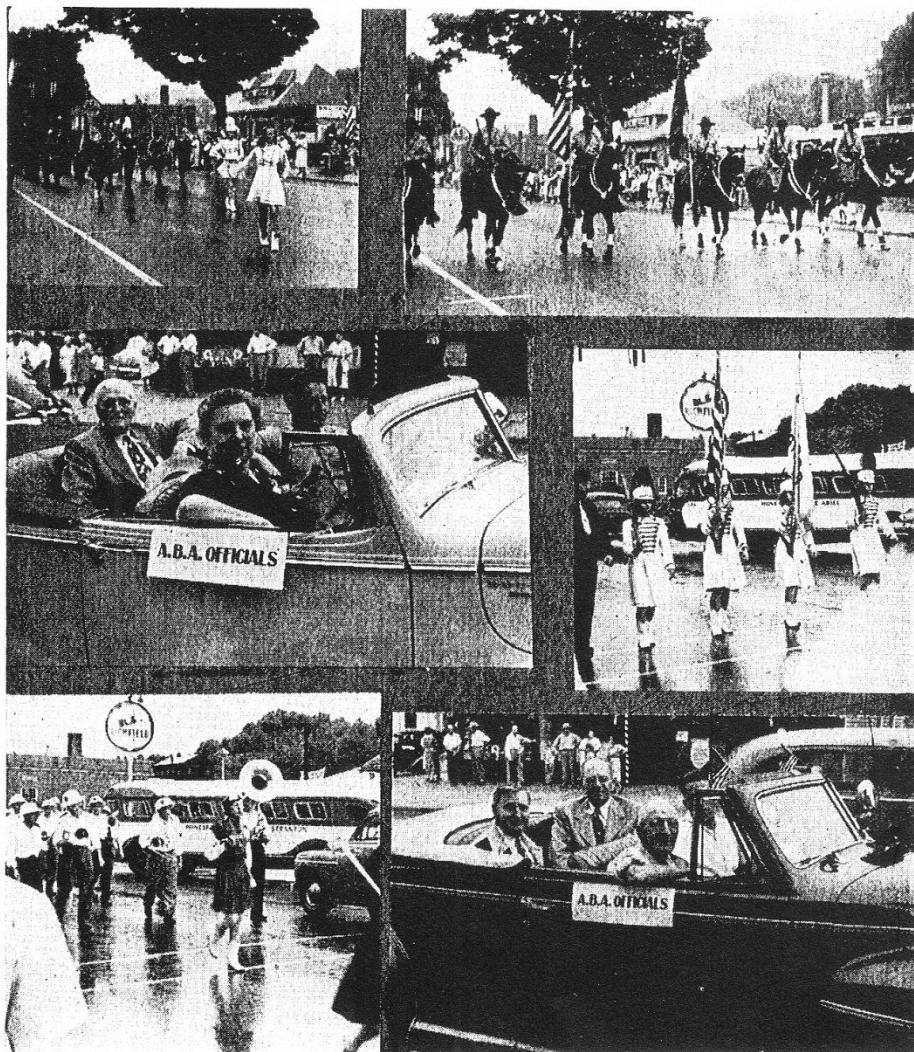
JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK, 1955. 1-2 Cock, 2-3 Hen, 1-2-3-4-5 Cockerel, 1-2-3 Pullet, 1 Young Trio. Grand Champion Bantam, Grand Champion Trio.

No stock for sale until late 1957

GEORGE H. SCHROEDER

BOX 5

HONESDALE, PENNA.



SCENES FROM THE HONESDALE PARADE

A.B.A. Officials—middle pictured car, left to right, A. B. Turner, Mrs. Alice A. Roberts; bottom pictured car, left to right, George Fitterer, F. L. Gary and Honorary Life Member John Kriner, Sr.

Honesdale Poultry Parade, Saturday, June 25, 1949. Parade Chairman was Robert Southerton. George Fitterer: "The big Saturday Parade did take place after the heavy rain just about wrecked many of the handsome floats. The boys of Honesdale had available for the A.B.A. officials as many open convertible autos as we needed. . ." C. E. Harrington: "At 3 P.M. the fire sirens were sounded to start the parade and at 3:00 the thunderstorm started. Honesdale had been without rain for 37 days and it took this big parade to bring it. In less than one hour, two inches of rain fell."

Variety

Judge

HONESDALE

J u d g i n g C a r d

Variety

Birds in Class -Cocks

No's

Hens

No's

COCK		HEN
1st		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		
5th		

Best of Variety

Signed